

In the Claims

5/10/10  
Claims 1-21 (Cancelled)

22. (Previously Presented) A method for reducing exercise induced pulmonary hemorrhage in a horse, said method comprising a step of applying a force to an exterior surface of a first and second lateral vestibular wall overlying a first and second nasal passage of a horse, said applied force being directed away from said first and second nasal passages, wherein said horse is affected by exercise induced pulmonary hemorrhage.
23. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 22 wherein said force is applied to a portion of said first and second vestibular walls, each vestibular wall defined rostrally by a nostril, dorsally by a nasal bone, ventrally by an incisive bone and caudally by an intersection of said incisive bone and said nasal bone.
24. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 22 wherein said force is applied by a nasal support device.
25. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 24 wherein said nasal support device includes an engaging layer.
26. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 25 wherein said engaging layer includes an adhesive.
27. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 26 wherein said nasal support device further comprises a support layer.
28. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 27 wherein said support layer comprises at least one lift member.

29. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 27 wherein said support layer comprises three or more lift members.

30. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 22 wherein said force is applied by a nasal support device comprising:

- a support layer to support a portion of said first and second lateral vestibular wall;

the support device configured to include:

- a first side piece for engaging said first lateral vestibular wall, said first side piece having a first rostral end, a first caudal end and a first rostral-poll dimension; and
- a second side piece for engaging said second lateral vestibular wall, said second side piece having a second rostral end, a second caudal end and a second rostral-poll dimension.

31. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 30 wherein said nasal support device further comprises a midline region including an intersection of said first and second side pieces, said midline region having a midline rostral end, a midline caudal end and a midline region rostral-poll dimension that is at least as great as a selected one of said first and second rostral-poll dimensions.

32. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 31 wherein said nasal support device further comprises an engaging layer having an adhesive for securing said nasal support device to said first and second lateral vestibular wall of said horse.

33. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 31 wherein said midline region rostral-poll dimension is greater than said selected one of said first and second rostral-poll dimensions.
34. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 32 wherein said nasal support device includes at least two lift members.
35. (Previously Presented) A method for facilitating air flow in a horse afflicted with a respiratory condition, said method comprising a step of:
- adhering a support device to an exterior region of a nose, the exterior region overlying a first and second nasal passage of said horse, said support device supporting said skin and associated soft tissues of said first and second nasal passages.
36. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 35 wherein said respiratory condition is exercise induced pulmonary hemorrhage.
37. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 35 wherein said respiratory condition is dorsal displacement of a soft palate.
38. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 35 wherein said respiratory condition is chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.
39. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 35 wherein the respiratory condition an upper respiratory condition.
40. (Previously Presented) A method for reducing respiratory airflow impedance in an animal, said method comprising a step of:
- adhering a support device to a first and second lateral vestibular wall overlying a first and second nasal passage of said animal and supporting a

portion of said first and second lateral vestibular walls with the support device to reduce respiratory airflow impedance in said animal.

41. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 40 wherein said reduction in respiratory airflow impedance is a reduction in inspiratory airflow impedance.
42. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 41 wherein said reduction in inspiratory airflow impedance is at least about 5-10%.
43. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 42 wherein said reduction in inspiratory airflow impedance is at least about 15-25%.
44. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 40 wherein said support device is a nasal support device comprising:
  - a support layer to support the portion of said first and second lateral vestibular wall;said support device configured to include:
  - a first side piece for engaging said first lateral vestibular wall, said first side piece having a first rostral end, a first caudal end and a first rostral-poll dimension; and
  - a second side piece for engaging said second lateral vestibular wall, said second side piece having a second rostral end, a second caudal end and a second rostral-poll dimension; and
  - a midline region including an inner section of said first and second side pieces, said midline region having a midline rostral end, a midline caudal end and a midline region rostral-poll dimension that is at least as great as a selected one of said first and second rostral-poll dimensions.
45. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 43 wherein said support layer includes at least two lift members.

46. (Previously Presented) A method for reducing exercise induced pulmonary hemorrhage in a horse, said method comprising a step of:
- adhering to an exterior region of a nose, the exterior region overlying a first and second nasal passage of said horse, a support device that provides a force directed away from said first and second nasal passages, wherein said horse is susceptible to exercise induced pulmonary hemorrhage.
47. (Cancelled)
48. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 46 wherein said support device extends over a bridge of said horse's nose.
49. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 46 wherein said support device is applied to said exterior region by an adhesive and said support device extends over a bridge of said horse's nose.
50. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 46 wherein said support device is a nasal support device comprising:
- a support layer to support a portion of first and second lateral vestibular walls of said nose;

said nasal support device configured to include:

- a first side piece for engaging said first lateral vestibular wall, said first side piece having a first rostral end, a first caudal end and a first rostral-poll dimension; and
- a second side piece for engaging said second lateral vestibular wall, said second side piece having a second rostral end, a second caudal end and a second rostral-poll dimension.

51. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 50 wherein said nasal support device further comprises a midline region including an intersection of said first and second side pieces, said midline region having a midline rostral end, a midline caudal end and a midline region rostral-poll dimension that is at least as great as a selected one of said first and second rostral-poll dimensions.
52. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 50 wherein said support layer comprises at least one lift member.
53. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 50 wherein said support layer comprises three or more lift members.
54. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 40 wherein said support device is adhered to a horse.
55. (Previously Presented) A method for reducing exercise induced pulmonary hemorrhage in a horse, said method comprising a step of:
- applying to an exterior region of a nose, the exterior region overlying a first and second nasal passage of said horse, an adhesive support device that provides a force directed away from said first and second nasal passages, wherein said horse is susceptible to exercise induced pulmonary hemorrhage.
56. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 35 wherein said exterior region includes skin overlying the nasal passages of the horse's nose.
57. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 46 wherein said exterior region includes skin overlying the nasal passages of the horse's nose.

58. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 55 wherein said exterior region includes skin overlying the nasal passages of the horse's nose.